

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-10

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R 022309Z JAN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ESCAP, OCON, AORG

SUBJECT: ACPR AGENDA JANUARY 7-8

REF: ROCKE LETTER 12/24/74

FOR RED

1. APPRECIATE COMMENTS REF LETTER AND SOLICIT ONGOING COMMENTS OF THIS TYPE FOR SUBSEQUENT ACPR AND OTHER MEETINGS. WOULD SUGGEST USE TELEGRAM FOR TIMELINESS. REF LETTER RECEIVED BY ACTION OFFICER THIS DATE.
2. RE ITEM 2 ACPR AGENDA - OVERALL REVIEW OF REGIONAL TRAINING INSTITUTES, WE CONCUR IN YOUR VIEWS. DEPT SHARES MISGIVINGS OVER PROPOSAL TO LOCATE ALL INSTITUTES IN ONE PLACE BUT BELIEVE WE SHOULD LEAVE INITIATIVE ON THIS ISSUE TO THE ASIAN MEMBERS. AGREE THAT SUPPORT FOR STATUS QUO IS OUR BEST POSITION BUT WE SHOULD NOT REPEAT NOT MAKE IT AN ISSUE FOR THE U.S.

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3. ON REGISTRY OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL SERVICES

(AGENDA ITEM 3) WE ENDORSE YOUR STAND. OUR CONCERN IS THAT WE ARE NOT COMMITTED TO BILATERAL SUPPORT OR TO AN

INCREASE IN ESCAP BUDGET FOR THIS ACTIVITY. WE FEEL SOME CONCERN THAT TRANSFER OF REGISTRY TO ESCAP WOULD CREATE PRESSURE TO PROVIDE FUNDS THROUGH UN BUDGET. THEREFORE, WE ARE NOT REPEAT NOT ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT PROPOSED MOVE BUT COULD LIVE WITH IT AS LONG AS U.S. POSITION MADE CLEAR, VIZ. NO U.S. BILATERAL CONTRIBUTION AND FUNDING OF REGISTRY OPERATIONS BY OTHER MEMBER COUNTRIES AND STRICTLY WITHIN EXISTING ESCAP BUDGET RESOURCES.

4. RE AGENDA ITEM 4 - PROPOSAL TO CREATE SHIPPING COMMITTEE. YOU SHOULD BE GUIDED BY PARA 5 DEPTTEL 275310 WHICH INCORPORATES POSITION STATE 268117.

5. DRAFT PROGRAM OF WORK AND PRIORITIES - OUR CONCERN IS TWO FOLD: (1) ESCAP RESOURCES FAR TOO THINLY SPREAD OVER WIDELY DIVERSE FIELDS OF ACTIVITY, AND (2) THOUGH GIVING LIP SERVICE TO FIVE PRIORITY AREAS WORK PROGRAM SHOWS LITTLE REAL MOVEMENT TO CONCENTRATE LIMITED ESCAP RESOURCES ON PRIORITIES. SECTION II OF WORK PROGRAM REVEALS HEAVY COMMITMENT OF SECRETARIAT RESOURCES IN MANY NON-PRIORITY ACTIVITIES. APPRECIATING THAT SHIFTS TO PRIORITIES CANNOT BE EFFECTED IN SHORT RUN, YOU SHOULD OPPOSE ADDITIONS TO SECTION II ACTIVITIES, INSOFAR AS THESE INVOLVE INCREASED RESOURCE ALLOCATIONS, TAKING APPROPRIATE OPPORTUNITIES TO REMIND ESCAP OF ITS PRIORITIES AND NEED TO MOVE TOWARD CONCENTRATION OF EFFORTS IN SECTION I AND AVOID PROLIFERATION AND EXPANSION UNDER SECTION II.

6. CONCUR YOUR VIEW OF DRAFT CALENDAR OF MEETINGS. DUE DIFFICULTIES OF BACK STOPPING CHAIN OF BACK-TO-BACK MEETINGS, DEPT WOULD FAVOR ANY MOVE TO PROVIDE BREATHING SPACES BETWEEN COMMITTEE MEETINGS IF THIS IS POSSIBLE. WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR AIRING THIS IDEA WITH ACPR IF YOU DO NOT PERCEIVE OPPOSING CONSIDERATIONS THAT WOULD RENDER IT INFEASIBLE.

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7. THIS IS IMPORTANT ITEM BEARING ON 1975 PLENARY IN DELHI. WE NOTE FOR EXAMPLE (YOUR A-321) THAT SHIPPING AND PORTS COMMITTEE ISSUE IS INCLUDED ON TENTATIVE AGENDA WHICH PRESUMABLY IS VERSION TO BE DISCUSSED BY ACPR. DEPT WILL APPRECIATE EARLIEST TRANSMISSION OF ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA WHICH PRESUMABLY WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE AT ACPR MEETING.

8. ASSUME AGENDA ITEM 8 MAY ADDRESS 4 POINTS LISTED UNDER VII IN TENTATIVE AGENDA SUBMITTED YOUR A-231. OUR MAIN CONCERNS ARE (A) COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE AND (C) SHIPPING AND PORTS COMMITTEE ISSUE. RE LATTER, SEE PARA 4 ABOVE. RE COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE, OUR CONCERN IS TO KEEP COMMITTEES FOCUS AS CONCENTRATED AS POSSIBLE, ELIMINATING TENDENCIES TO WIDEN COMMITTEE CONCERNS INTO OVERLAPPING OR ONLY INDIRECTLY RELATED FIELDS. BELIEVE RED FULLY ACQUAINTED WITH THESE CONSIDERATIONS AND DO NOT BELIEVE IT NECESSARY PROVIDE DETAILED COMMENTARY.

9. FULLY CONCUR VIEW REF LETTER ON AGENDA ITEM 9 AND WOULD HOPE NO FURTHER WIND GENERATED BY DISCUSSION OF "OTHER BUSINESS". INGERSOLL

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